

Message Text

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ACTION L-02

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-06 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 FEA-01

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EPA-01 INR-07 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00 PM-03 OES-03

SS-15 SP-02 AGR-05 STR-04 INT-05 DLOS-03 OIC-02 /117 W

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R 070819Z APR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9204

INFO AMEMBASSY ALGIERS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, UN

SUBJ: FOURTH MEETING COMMITTEE ON NATURAL RESOURCES, TOKYO,
MARCH 24-APRIL 4

REF: A. TOKYO 3903 B. TOKYO 3991 C. TOKYO 4219

D. TOKYO 4320 E. TOKYO 4422 F. TOKYO 4423

G. STATE 76080

SUMMARY. TWO-WEEK CONFERENCE OF THE CNR ENDED FRIDAY

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AFTERNOON, APRIL 4, IN ATMOSPHERE OF HARMONY AND COOPERATION

WITH ADOPTION OF FINAL REPORT CONTAINING RESOLUTIONS ON SUPPLY AND DEMAND OF NATURAL RESOURCES, UN WATER CONFERENCE, PERMANENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES, INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASINS, UN REVOLVING FUND, AND PROGRAM COORDINATION AND A PLAN OF ACTION. CONFERENCE MET MOST OF OUR LIMITED OBJECTIVES AND ASPIRATIONS, ESPECIALLY DIMINISHED PREOCCUPATION WITH POLITICAL ISSUES AND PROGRESS TOWARD UNDERTAKING A SERIOUS PROGRAM EVALUATION, COORDINATION AND PLANNING FUNCTION. HOWEVER, ULTIMATE UTILITY OF CNR REMAINS UNCLEAR AND PROBABLY WILL DEPEND TO A CONSIDERABLE DEGREE UPON THE WORK OF THE COMMITTEE AND ITS SECRETARIAT THROUGH THE NEXT SESSION AND IN PREPARATION FOR THE UN WATER CONFERENCE IN MARCH 1977. END SUMMARY.

1. AS PREVIOUSLY REPORTED, THE 4TH SESSION OF THE CNR WAS CHARACTERIZED BY ITS SLOW, DELIBERATE PACE AND RELATIVE ABSENCE OF ASSERTION AND POLEMICS BY THE GROUP OF 77 (IN STARK CONTRAST TO PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETINGS AND SUCH OTHER RECENT UN CONFERENCES AS UNIDO II IN LIMA. THE ALGERIAN DELEGATION MAINTAINED PRIVATELY THAT THIS MEETING WAS OUT OF PHASE IN RELATION TO THE TIMETABLE OF PRINCIPAL CONFERENCES ON NATURAL RESOURCES MATTERS (AND, BY INFERENCE, IN RELATION TO THE ALGERIAN PREPARATORY STRATEGY FOR THE 7TH SPECIAL SESSION AS WELL). THUS, ALGERIANS AND OTHER IN GROUP OF 77 DID NOT WANT TO DISSIPATE THEIR ENERGIES AND DISCLOSE THEIR HAND AT THIS SESSION. HOWEVER, THE STRENGTH OF THE COMMITMENT ON THE PART OF THE GROUP OF 77 TO PRESS FORWARD ON THE NIEO AND CERDS WAS CONSISTENTLY MANIFESTED DURING DRAFTING AND DEBATE ON A NUMBER OF RESOLUTIONS.

2. THE USSR AND EASTERN EUROPEAN COUNTRIES MAINTAINED A LOW PROFILE AND GENERALLY RESTRICTED THEMSELVES TO PREVENTING THE CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES, ENERGY AND TRANSPORT FROM ASSUMING NEW DUTIES AND STRENGTH AND ENSURING THAT THE CNR REMAINS SUBSERVIENT TO ECOSOC AND DOES NOT LAUNCH ANY NEW INITIATIVES PRIOR TO ECOSOC CONSIDERATION. ONE OF THE MAJOR SURPRISES LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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WAS SOVIET FAILURE TO PRESS FOR TRANSFERRING CNR INTO OR UNDER UNIDO. SOME DELEGATES SPECULATED THAT LIMA MEETING HAD CAUSED USSR TO REEVALUATE ITS ABILITY TO INFLUENCE UNIDO IN THE YEARS AHEAD.

3. THIS SESSION SAW CONTINUED EVOLUTION AWAY FROM A LARGELY POLITICAL EMPHASIS, WHICH CHARACTERIZED LAST TWO MEETINGS OF THE COMMITTEE, AND TOWARD GREATER

CONCERN WITH PROGRAM COORDINATION, FINANCING, IDENTIFICATION OF PROGRAM WEAKNESSES AND DEFINITION OF FUTURE NEEDS. WHETHER THIS REFLECTS A CHANGED, POSITIVE ATTITUDE WITH RESPECT TO THE COMMITTEE'S PROPER ROLE IN THE PROGRAM COORDINATION FIELD OR MERELY A LACK OF INTEREST IN POLITICAL DEBATE FOR SHORT-TERM REASONS CITED ABOVE, IS UNCLEAR. WHAT IS CLEAR IS THE FACT THAT A NUMBER OF DELEGATIONS, INCLUDING THE UK, NETHERLANDS, FRANCE AND THE SOVIET UNION APPEARED TO BE MAINTAINING A STRICTLY DEFENSIVE POSTURE WITH THEIR PRINCIPAL OBJECTIVE THAT OF KEEPING THE CNR AND THE SECRETARIAT FROM DEALING WITH POLITICAL ISSUES AND FROM SPAWNING ANY NEW PROGRAMS OR COMMITTEES. CANADA, NORWAY, SWEDEN AND AUSTRALIA WERE FORTHCOMING AND CONSTRUCTIVE AND INCLINED TO ORIENT THE COMMITTEE TOWARD THE U.S. VIEWS ON ITS PROPER ROLE.

4. THE JAPANESE PERFORMANCE IN RUNNING THE CONFERENCE (UNDER THE ABLE CHAIRMANSHIP OF SENJIN TSURUOKA) AND PARTICIPATION IN THE WORK OF THE CNR WAS CONSISTENTLY

CONSTRUCTIVE AND IMPRESSIVE. THE HOSPITALITY AND ARRANGEMENTS WERE EXCEPTIONALLY WELL PLANNED AND LAVISH, AND THE JAPANESE DELEGATION WORKED HARD TO TAKE A POSITIVE POSITION WITH RESPECT TO THE ASPIRATIONS AND GOALS OF THE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. THEIR STRATEGY APPEARS TO BE ONE OF MAKING HIGHLY SELECTIVE CONTRIBUTIONS TO UN NATURAL RESOURCES PROGRAMS, SUCH AS THE UN REVOLVING FUND AND AN EXPANDED INFORMATION PROGRAM, AT A TIME AND IN A MANNER THAT GIVE THEM HIGH VISIBILITY AND MUCH GOOD WILL WITHIN THE THIRD WORLD.

5. THE FOLLOWING RESOLUTIONS WERE ADOPTED BY THE COM-LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MITTEE, MOST BY CONSENSUS, BUT TWO, WHICH REFERENCED CERDS AND DECLARATION AND PROGRAM OF ACTION (IDENTIFIED BELOW AND DESCRIBED IN SEPTELS), WERE ADOPTED BY MAJORITY (NON-VOTING) WITH RESERVATIONS BY THE US AND OTHERS INCLUDED IN THE FINAL REPORT:

A. PROBLEMS OF AVAILABILITY OF SUPPLY OF NATURAL RESOURCES:

(1) RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED BY SOCIALIST COUNTRIES-- CALLING FOR ECOSOC TO STRENGTHEN AND COORDINATE RESEARCH AND INFORMATION DISSEMINATION ON PROJECTIONS; GIVE GREATER ATTENTION TOO ALTERNATIVE ENERGY SOURCES; PREPARE REPORTS ON STATUS OF COAL, OIL SHALE, GEOTHERMAL AND SOLAR ENERGY

AND MEASURES FOR EXPANDING USE; ORGANIZE AN INTERNATIONAL
SEMINAR ON EVALUATION AND WORKING OF COAL DEPOSITS AND

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C O N F I D E N T I A L

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PLANNING OF COAL MINING ENTERPRISES; AND PREPARATION
OF A COMPREHENSIVE REPORT TO CNR AT ITS NEXT SESSION
ON PROSPECTS FOR DEVELOPMENT OF RAW MATERIALS FOR THE
COPPER INDUSTRY, AND COPPER DEMAND INCLUDING RECYCLING.
THE U.S. JOINED THE CONSENSUS BUT MADE NO STATEMENT ON
THE RESOLUTION.

(2) CANADIAN RESOLUTION--THAT CENTER REVIEW
PRESENT DEFINITIONS AND TERMINOLOGY BEING USED IN
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MINERAL RESOURCES FIELD FOR RESERVES, PRODUCTION AND
CONSUMPTION; AND A GROUP OF EXPERTS BE CONVENED TO
RECOMMEND INTERNATIONAL SET OF DEFINITIONS AND
TERMINOLOGY. US JOINED CONSENSUS WITHOUT COMMENT.

(3) RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY ICELAND, INDIA, ITALY,
KENYA AND JAPAN--THAT UN UNIVERSITY INCLUDE IN ITS
PROGRAM PRIORITIES RESEARCH ON GEOTHERMAL AND SOLAR
ENERGY AND THEIR PRACTICAL APPLICATIONS; AND THAT THE
UNDP IN COLLABORATION WITH OTHER UN BODIES AND BILATERAL
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS FAVORABLY CONSIDER
FUNDING INFORMATION SYSTEMS, TRAINING AND SEMINARS IN
THE EXPLOITATION AND UTILIZATION OF GEOTHERMAL AND
SOLAR ENERGY; AND SUPPORTING LDC PARTICIPATION. THE
US DELEGATION JOINED THE CONSENSUS BASED ON THE
SECRETARY'S EARLIER PROPOSAL FOR A UN UNIVERSITY PRO-
GRAM IN THIS AREA, BUT POINTED OUT IN THE DRAFTING
GROUP THAT WE ARE IN PRINCIPLE OPPOSED TO ACTIONS BY
THE CNR WHICH WILL LEAD TO NEW ACTIVITIES, OR THE
ASSIGNMENT OF DUTIES TO VARIOUS INSTITUTION WITHIN THE
UN FAMILY WITHOUT A CAREFUL ANALYSIS OF PROGRAM NEEDS
AND A CLEAR UNDERSTANDING OF ONGOING EFFORTS TO
AVOID DUPLICATION.

(4) RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY JAPAN--REQUESTS THE
SECRETARY-GENERAL TO SUBMIT AT ONE OF ITS SESSIONS IN
1976 A PROPOSAL FOR IMPLEMENTING AN INTENSIFICATION OF
UN INFORMATION SERVICES, AND TO INDICATE FUNDING
ED
MANPOWER REQUIRED. THE U.S. JOINED THE CONSENSUS
WITHOUT COMMENT IN THE PLENARY, ALTHOUGH INDICATING IN
THE DRAFTING GROUP OUR CONCERN OVER THE ABSENCE OF
SUFFICIENT ANALYTICAL WORK TO JUSTIFY THE RECOMMENDATIONS.
IT IS KNOWN, HOWEVER, THAT JAPAN IS CONSIDERING A \$1
MILLION PLEDGE TOWARD AND IMPROVED INFORMATION PROGRAM.
B. UN WATER CONFERENCE--RESOLUTIONS SUBMITTED BY
ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, INDIA, IRAQ, NETHERLANDS, PERU,
UPPER VOLTA AND YUGOSLAVIA--APPELS TO UNEP TO FUND THE
REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS; AUTHORIZES CNR TO ACT
AS THE PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR CONFERENCE AND HOLD
INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS AS REQUIRED, WITH THE FIRST
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MEETING IN EARLY 1976; APPROVES THE REVISED AGENDA PRESENTED TO CNR AS A PRELIMINARY VERSION SUBJECT TO FURTHER ACTION THE COMMITTEE AT ITS INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS; EMPHASIZES THE IMPORTANCE OF REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS HELD BY THE UN ECONOMIC COMMISSIONS IN 1976; ASKS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO COORDINATE THE WATER CONFERENCE WITH THE UN CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION; REQUESTS GOVERNMENTS TO ESTABLISH NATIONAL COMMITTEES; AND DECIDES TO CONVENE THE CONFERENCE IN ARGENTINA FROM MARCH 7-18, 1977. U.S. JOINED CONSENSUS SINCE VIRTUALLY ALL ASPECTS REFLECTED U.S. VIEWS SET FORTH IN OUR INTERVENTION. ONLY DISAPPOINTMENT WAS CNR FAILURE TO FORM SMALLER AD HOC PREPARATORY COMMITTEE RATHER THAN UTILIZE FULL CNR IN INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS. U.S. SUGGESTED CNR NOT LOOK TO UNEP FOR FUNDING BEYOND SUPPORT FOR THE REGIONAL PREPARATORY MEETINGS, AND THIS VIEW PREVAILED.

C. UN REVOLVING FUND--RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY JAPAN, KENYA, NETHERLANDS, SUDAN, UGANDA AND UPPER VOLTA; REAFFIRMS AIMS AND OBJECTIVES OF FUND; APPEALS TO ALL COUNTRIES, ESPECIALLY DEVELOPED NATIONS TO CONTRIBUTE GENEROUSLY; ASKS UNDP ADMINISTRATOR TO INTENSIFY FUND-RAISING EFFORTS, INCLUDING PROPOSING APPROPRIATE TARGETS FOR CONTRIBUTIONS; RECOMMENDS THE FUND UTILIZE LOCAL EXPERTS AS FAR AS POSSIBLE AND PROVIDE FOR TRAINING OF LOCAL PERSONNEL; AND RECOMMENDS THAT UNDP GOVERNING COUNCIL REVIEW THE REPLENISHMENT FORMULA. THE U.S. JOINED THE CONSENSUS, BUT DID NOT SPEAK ON THIS AGENDA ITEM.

D. INTERNATIONAL RIVER BASIN DEVELOPMENT--RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY ALGERIA, ARGENTINA, INDIA, IRAQ, LIBYA, PAKISTAN; RECOMMENDS THAT ECOSOC REQUEST THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO UTILIZE CENTER FOR NATURAL RESOURCES AND OTHER UN ORGANS TO ASSIST THE INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION IN ITS STUDY ON THE LAW OF THE NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF INTERNATIONAL WATER COURSES; REQUESTS THE SECRETARY-GENERAL TO REPORT ON PROGRESS AT THE NEXT CNR SESSION; AND APPEALS TO THE ILC TO GIVE PRIORITY TO THE STUDY OF THE LAW OF NON-NAVIGATIONAL USES OF LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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INTERNATIONAL WATER COURSES AND PRESENT A PROGRESS REPORT AT THE UN WATER CONFERENCE. IT WAS DEBATE ON THIS RESOLUTION THAT PROMPTED BRAZIL TO WITHDRAW FROM THE CONFERENCE. THE U.S. JOINED THE CONSENSUS BUT ENTERED RESERVATIONS (I.E. STATEMENT OF NO CHANGE IN U.S. POSITION) ON PARAGRAPHS WHICH CITED VARIOUS PRE-

VIOUS GA RESOLUTIONS ON CERDS, ETC. INDIAN-SPONSORED
ALTERNATIVE DRAFT, WHICH BRAZIL SPPPORTED (SEE REF G)
WAS CONSIDERED WITHIN G-77 AND MERGED INTO FINAL TEXT
BUT NOT SUBMITTED PER SE TO PRLINARY SESSION. BRAZIL
DID NOT RETURN TO MEETING AFTER APRIL 3 WITHDRAWAL.

E. COMPREHENSIVE PLAN OF ACTION AND PROGRAM COORDINATION:

(1) RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY NETHERLANDS, NORWAY
AND SWENDEN; URGES ALL UN ORGANS AND AGENCIES TO COOP-
ERATE UNDER ECOSOC TO DEVELOP AND EXPANDED PLAN OF
ACTION, AND TO SUBMIT REPORTS TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
PRIOR TO CNR SESSIONS ON ONGOING AND PLANNED PROGRAMS,
PARTICULARLY THOSE OF A GLOBAL AND GENERAL NATURE; AND
RECOMMENDS THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL, IN COOPERATION
WITH RELEVANT SPECIALIZED UN AGENCIES, IN PARTICULAR
THE UNDP, UNDERTAKE NECESSARY ARRANGEMENTS TO PROVIDE
BETTER COORDINATION AND HARMONIZATION OF PERATIONAL
ACTIVITIES IN THE NATURAL RESOURCES FIELD AT THE COUNTRY
LEVEL, AND REPORT ON PROGRESS AT THE NEXT CNR SESSION.
THE U.S. DELEGATION PARTICIPATED ACTIVELY IN DRAFTING
THIS RESOLUTION, AND ALSO IN REFLECTING THE THRUST AND
CONTENT OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS IN THE AGENDA ADOPTED
FOR THE NEXT CNR MEETING.

(2) RESOLUTION SUBMITTED BY THE SOCIALIST
COUNTRIES; RECOMMENDS THAT UN MEMBER STATES AND ORGANI-
ZATIONS CONSIDER THE INFORMATION COMPILED BY THE CNR
SECRETARIAT ON UN WORK PROGRAMS AND SUBMIT TO THE
SECRETARY-GENRAL WITHIN ONE YEAR SPECIFIC PROPOSALS
ON BETTER COORDINATION AND REALLOCATION OF RESOURCES;
RECOMMENDS THAT THE SECRETARY-GENERAL SUBMIT TO THE
5TH CNR A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN FOR UN PROGRAM COORDINA-
TION IN VIEW OF THE OBSERVATIONS RECEIVED. THE U.S.
JOINED THE CONSENSUS WITHOUT COMMENT.
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F. PERMENENT SOVEREIGNTY OVER NATURAL RESOURCES--
SEE SEPTELS ON THIS SUBJECT.
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